

PUBLIC NOTICE

File Number: NRS 14.136

Pursuant to Chapter 0400-4-7 of the Department's rules, the proposed activity described below has been submitted for approval under an Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit and §401 Water Quality Certification. This notice is intended to inform interested parties of this permit application and to ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. No decision has been made whether to issue or deny this application.

APPLICANT: Tennessee Department of Transportation

Environmental Permits Section Suite 900, James K. Polk Bldg.

505 Deaderick St. Nashville, TN 37243

615-253-2466

LOCATION: SIA serving Volkswagen of America, Chattanooga (Lat:35.069065/Lon:85.148468), File# NRS 14.136, Hamilton County

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to install 30 feet of culvert extension and conduct a minor wetlands fill (0.05 acre) in support of improvements to the SIA serving Volkswagen of America.

IMPACTS:

<u>Impact 1</u>: Latitude: 35.069065 Longitude: -85.148468

Poe Branch (STR-1) Station 45+15 Existing 211 ft. of 2 @ 10X9 box culvert would be extended by 30 feet.

<u>Impact 2</u>: Latitude: 35.069523 Longitude: -85.146533

Wetlands (WTL-3) Station 154+12(L) to Sta. 156+70(L)

Permanent fill of 0.05 acre of wetland.

DEGRADATION: In accordance with the Tennessee Antidegradation Statement (Rule 0400-40-03-.06), the division has determined that the proposed activities will result in degradation to water quality.

WATERSHED / WATERBODY DESCRIPTION: Poe Branch is part of the Lower Tennessee River Watershed and is located in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama. The Group 3 portion of the Tennessee portion of the Lower Tennessee River Watershed includes parts of Bledsoe, Bradley,

Hamilton, Loudon, McMinn, Meigs, Rhea, Roane and Sequatchie counties. It drains approximately 1,870 square miles, 1,201 square miles of which are in Tennessee. The Group 3 portion is 757 square miles.For more information on this watershed please visit http://www.state.tn.us/environment/water/watersheds/lower-tennessee-river.shtml.

Stream Name / ID #: Poe Branch (ID TN06020001007_0110)

Ecoregion: Southern Limestone/Dolomite Valleys and Low Rolling Hills - Ecoregion

(67f)

Stream Dimension: Channel bottom width

Chanel top width Water depth Bank height

Substrate: Silt and gravel

Fish and aquatic life not supporting siltation, physical substrate habitat a

alteration and nutrient enrichment

Recreation fully supporting
Industrial water supply fully supporting
Irrigation fully supporting
Livestock watering & wildlife not supporting

Poe Branch was assessed in 2012. It is fully supporting its designated uses except fish and aquatic life where it is impaired for siltation, physical substrate habitat alteration and nutrient enrichment. Therefore the stream has unavailable conditions for the proposed impacts to habitat and mitigation must within the HUC 12.

MITIGATION REQUIRED: The applicant proposes mitigating 30 ft. of stream encapsulation/losses by purchasing 30 available credits from the Oostanala Creek Mitigation Bank

Assessment Date: 2012

PERMIT COORDINATOR: Brian Canada

FACTORS CONSIDERED: In deciding whether to issue or deny a permit, the department will consider all comments of record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws. In making this decision, a determination will be made regarding the lost value of the resource compared to the value of any proposed mitigation. The department shall consider practicable alternatives to the alteration. The department shall also consider loss of waters or habitat, diminishment in biological diversity, cumulative or secondary impacts to the water resource, and adverse impact to unique, high quality, or impaired waters.

COMMENTING: Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department. Written comments must be received within **thirty days of the date that this notice is posted**. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision. The applicant's name and permit number should be referenced. Send all

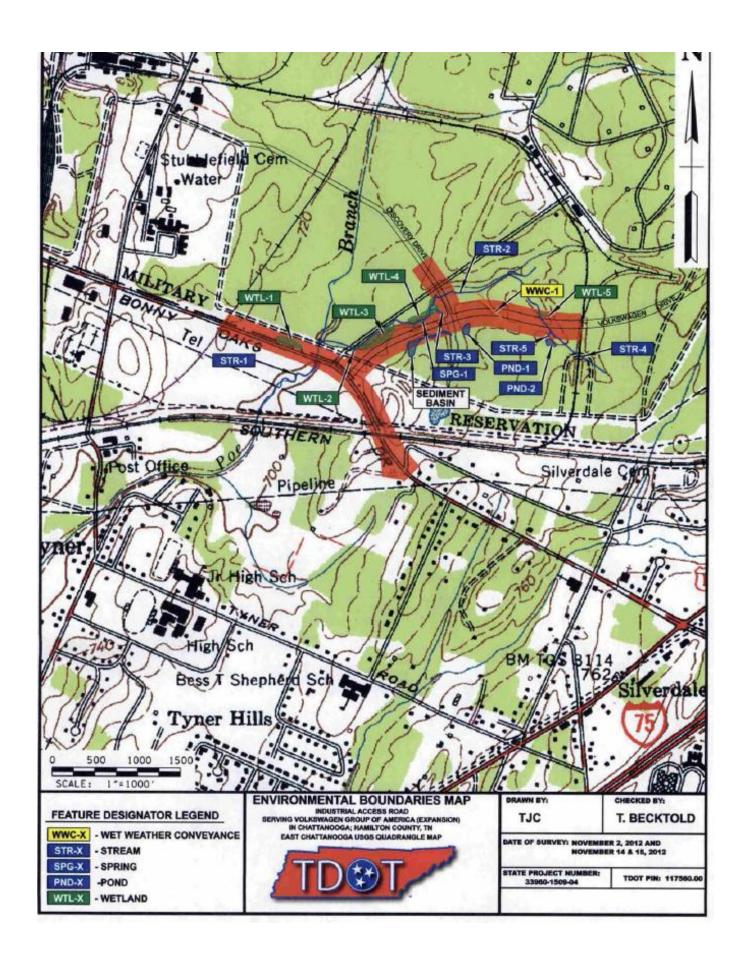
written comments to the department's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

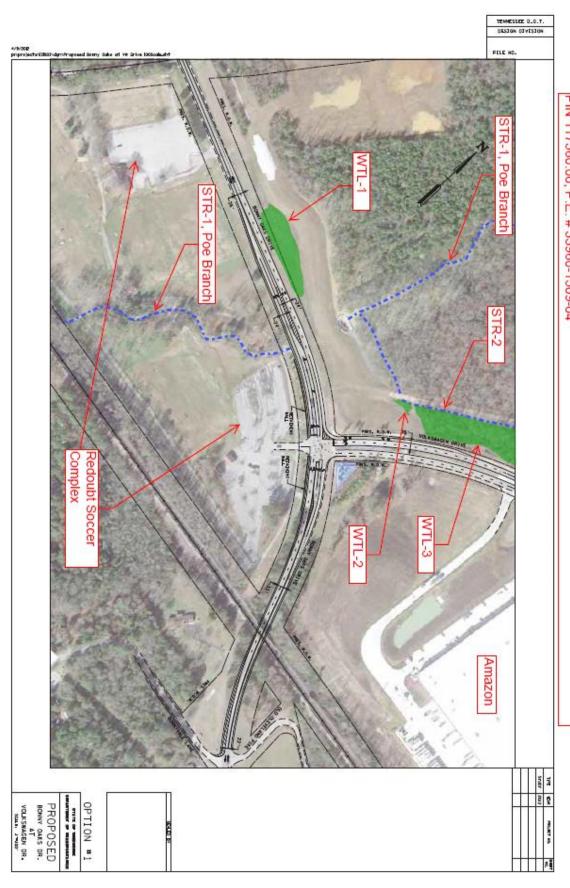
PUBLIC HEARING: Interested persons may request in writing that the department hold a public hearing on this application. The request must be filed within the comment period, indicate the interest of the person requesting it, the reasons that the hearing is warranted, and the water quality issues being raised. When there is sufficient public interest in water quality issues, the department will hold a public hearing. Send all public hearing request to the department's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

APPEAL: A permit appeal may be filed, pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 69-3-105(i) and Rule 0400-40-05, by the permit applicant or by any aggrieved person who participated in the public comment period announced by this notice. This petition must be filed within THIRTY (30) DAYS after public notice of the issuance of the permit. The petition must specify what provisions are being appealed and the basis for the appeal. It should be addressed to the technical secretary of the Tennessee Board of Water Quality, Oil and Gas at the following address: Dr. Sandra Dudley, Director, Division of Water Resources, William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave, 12th floor, Nashville, TN 37243. Any hearing would be in accordance with T.C.A. §§69-3-110 and 4-5-301 et seq.

FILE REVIEW: The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available at the department's address (listed below) for review and/or copying.

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation Division of Water Resources, Natural Resources Unit William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor Nashville, Tennessee 37243





Project: Industrial Access Road serving Volkswagen Group of America (Expansion); Hamilton County, TN PIN 117560.00; P.E. # 33960-1509-04